

6/21/04

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20445

Dear Ms. Dortch,

These comments are in reference to MB Docket No. 04-160. My wife and I own and operate 6 radio stations in Northeast North Dakota. We are appalled at the blatant lack of disrespect shown the commission by both XM and Sirius. This disrespect is shown in the very way that they lied to the commission about their service being national only in scope, now having come through the back door to offer local information in 21 (and counting) major markets. If a small mom and pop operator such as Simmons Broadcasting we're to tell the FCC one thing and then do another, you'd be on us like a ton of bricks!

As for what local broadcasters out here in North Dakota do for our communities, last year on average each radio station gave back approximately \$183,352 in public service advertising. These are soon to be released numbers compiled by our state broadcasters association. Personally, my stations located at Langdon, ND proved to be an invaluable resource to the local community during a freak sleet storm this May that resulted in hundreds of area residents being left without power for up to 2 weeks. Our Grafton, ND stations proved to be an invaluable resource to that community this April during spring flooding which resulted in millions of dollars in property damage. These are just two recent examples of what we do for our hometown areas. I believe it is incumbent on the commission to provide some type of protection to local terrestrial broadcasters as the sat-casters have no local investment in these communities.

I for one am not convinced that satellite services will be the death of local radio providing the FCC does its job correctly. Do the right thing and hold these folks to their promises. Keep satellite radio a national service and protect local terrestrial broadcasters.

Regards,

Bob Simmons

President/CEO  
Simmons Broadcasting